

Welcoming 2010

... And Saying "Goodbye" to 2009



Chris Owens
Director

OFW received a call from a Louisville Metro Corrections employee who enjoys and is proud of her career. Sergeant Tamiko L. Joyner felt *The Scoop* was a publication that could help break stereotypes. She wanted *The Scoop* to help set the record straight on women in law enforcement.

Unlike what we see on cable television, law enforcement offers women good job opportunities. Unlike the television portrayals, law enforcement employees like Sgt. Joyner care about their neighborhoods and work hard to give back to their communities. You can find out more online about [Louisville Metro Corrections](#) and [Louisville Metro Police](#).

Law enforcement is often passed over by women looking for work, but it provides steady employment, has good benefits and advancement potential. It is a career where the opportunities are varied; the rewards are many; the work is challenging; and the need is always great.

2009 had its share of unpredictable highs and lows. There was the introduction of H2N1 into our lives and vocabulary—quickly followed by an army of hand sanitizers. The economy seemed to be dragging its feet, but is now moving toward recovery. Through it all, the community of women in Louisville have continued to care, to volunteer, and to stay in touch.

"Saying Goodbye" to 2009 would not be complete without a thank you to OFW volunteers. Some of their names appear as contributors in this edition of *The Scoop*. Others help us with events, online registrations, and database management. Watch for recognition of OFW's student interns and volunteers in the next edition of *The Scoop*.

Because Louisville Women care, I'm asking for your insight. Please take a few moments to fill out the [OFW Unmet Needs Survey](#). Your opinion and insight will be used for planning during 2010.

The survey has four questions asking for your opinion about needs of women in Louisville that are not being met. The survey remains open until midnight, January 5, 2010. Data from your opinions will be compiled and reported in the next edition of *The Scoop*.

Maybe we won't miss some things about 2009 when we look back, but Louisville Women rise to every challenge. This year was no exception. Now we move forward into what will be a terrific 2010!



*Become a
Neighborhood
Hero*



Serving with
Pride...
Integrity... and
Professionalism



Highlighting: Women in Law Enforcement

Thank you, Sergeant Tamiko L. Joyner, Recruitment and Development, Louisville Metro Department of Corrections, for your suggestion and contributions to this edition.

We cannot rely on television images to tell the real stories about women, our work, or our lives. It is up to each of us in the community of women to tell our stories. Therefore, this edition of *The*

Scoop takes a step in that direction by featuring three Louisville women who work in law enforcement.

OFW looks forward to more suggestions by our readers about how *The Scoop* can highlight Louisville women, their contributions and careers. You can e-mail [OFW](#) to share your suggestions.

In this issue you will:

- ◆ Meet 3 Louisville Women excelling in their Law Enforcement Careers
- ◆ Find the 2010 Women's Citizen's Police Academy Announcement
- ◆ Connect to the 2010 Mayor's Community Conversation Schedule
- ◆ Catch Up on OFW Plans & News



Upcoming Mayor's Community Conversations



All Community Conversations begin at 6:30pm on the 3rd Monday of the Month

Monday, January 26*
Westport Middle School
8100 Westport Road [Map it](#)
*4th Monday due to MLK holiday

Monday, February 16
Moore High School
Theatre Room
6415 Outer Loop [Map it](#)

Monday, March 16
Iroquois High School Gym
4615 Taylor Blvd. [Map it](#)

Monday, April 20
Stuart Middle School Gym
4601 Valley Station Rd. [Map it](#)

Monday, May 18
Newburg Middle School
Gym
4901 Exeter Avenue [Map it](#)

Monday, June 15
Ramsey Middle School Gym
6409 Gellhaus Lane [Map it](#)

Monday, July 20
Carter Elementary School
3600 Bohne Avenue [Map it](#)

Be sure to look for OFW at the Mayor's Community Conversations.



Female Corrections Officers: Shattering Stereotypes

Contributed by: Carmen Moreno-Rivera

Who doesn't love a good cop show? You can find one on just about any channel on television and there are many movies about the lives of officers. More and more shows are even building story lines around the female officers on their shows. However, those storylines often depict these women in a not so favorable light. Television shows would have you believe that these women are rough, non-feminine, and often victims of abuse.

Most people would never think about these same women being members of the PTA or driving their children to soccer practice. Female corrections officers are your neighbors and active in their communities, and the benefits they enjoy in their careers would surprise you.

Meet Recruitment and Development Sergeant Tamiko L. Joyner of the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections. She wants you to know that, despite the stereotypes portrayed on television, female corrections officers are active members of their communities and enjoy thriving careers. Before finding her career in Corrections, Sgt. Joyner knew she wanted a secure job with benefits and that would provide her with the means to support a family. She found the Corrections officer job from an advertisement in the newspaper. After applying and being accepted, Sgt. Joyner completed 10 paid weeks of Academy training that included training in self defense, ground fighting, weapons handling, and de-escalation methods. After completion of the

Academy, she was a certified peace officer, certified in first aid and CPR, and had 12 credit hours that can be applied towards a college degree using LMDC's tuition reimbursement program.

Upon Academy completion, Sgt. Joyner entered "field officer training" (a form of on-the-job training) during which she received mentoring and evaluations to improve her performance. She has since found the work environment is very supportive. It is one that fosters a sense of teamwork—a concept focused on from the first day at the Academy. In addition to being a stable and secure job, the flexibility offered as a corrections officer is important to keep a good work-life balance. Officers have an assigned shift but can bid for different areas and shifts to fit their lifestyle. And, after 25 years, corrections officers can look forward to retirement—something that is rare in today's business world.

Corrections officers often give back to their communities. One program that helps them do this is the Coat-a-Kid program with Roosevelt Perry Elementary School. They also are a FOP lodge sponsor of such Special Olympics events as the Polar Plunge, Pull a Plane, and the Torch Run. Sgt. Joyner believes that she is a role model for young girls and women. They have respectful views of her and understand that they can be in her position if they choose to—an esteemed member of the community and a positive role model for area women.

Judge Sadiqa N. Reynolds: Shattering Stereotypes

Contributed by: Toma Lynn Smith



Bright eyes greet those who shake the hands of Sadiqa N. Reynolds. She looks a person straight in the eyes when she greets them. However, as the District Court Judge for the 30th Judicial District, Division 11 (Jefferson County), she comes across some rather disheartening situations in the courtroom. This does not dull her spirits.

Judge Reynolds was appointed by Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear and sworn in August 2009. She loves what she does and wants to continue helping others the rest of her life. "As a judge, I am impacting the citizens of the community. I want to make sure the streets are

safe and at the same time it is important for all of us in the courtroom to remember that the person standing before us is innocent until proven guilty," she told local magazine Today's Woman.

As a woman of color, she is faced with the fact that the majority of those who have to face a judge in court are people of color. She said with her position, it helps for them to see someone who looks like them in a leadership position. In "her court," she sees beyond those who end up in judicial situations and realizes there are factors that lead the accused into facing the justice system, such as poverty.

Reynolds has this advice for women who want to work in law enforcement: "Go for it!"

Sadiqa Reynolds is a graduate of the University of Louisville, and the University of Kentucky College of Law. She was the first African American woman to clerk for the Kentucky Supreme Court. Prior to being appointed Jefferson County District Judge of the 30th Judicial District, Division 11, Reynolds held several public service positions including assistant director of the Division of Public Works and Assets, chief of staff of Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness, and Inspector General of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services. She also served as a Guardian Ad Litem representing abused, neglected and dependent children.



ANNOUNCING:

The Second Annual Women's Citizens Police Academy



Citizen Police Academy: Shattering Stereotypes



Officer Minerva Virola joined the LMPD to support her family and found not a job, but a career that fulfilled her desire to serve her community. Despite the progress made by women during the past few decades, women make up approximately 17% of LMPD, and of that 17% a mere handful are minority women. Minerva believes more women should explore the possibilities offered in the ranks of law enforcement.

As member of the LMPD Community Relations Unit, Minerva's is charged with fostering understanding and support between LMPD and the community. Minerva knew from her interactions with the public that people were curious about law enforcement. There was only way to find out exactly what the public wanted to know: Ask. After conducting surveys and listening to community groups, she realized they wanted to know that they could not see: the "behind the scenes" operations. What happened once the police department received their concerns? What happened after they called the tip line? How is evidence gathered and analyzed? She also realized and wanted concerned citizens to know they have the knowledge and resources to make their neighborhoods safe and to assist law enforcement.

The Citizen Police Academy (CPA) evolved from the original surveys and community discussions to address the concerns and interests. She organized meetings for detectives to come and talk about investigating crimes; attorneys talked about policing and the law. There were opportunities to ask questions and questions were

answered. The meetings were also opportunities to learn more about the public's questions. The public was interested and Minerva was listening; Louisville now has the Citizen Police Academy.

In 2009 the first ever Women's Citizen Police Academy (WPCA) was held. Twenty-seven women met once a week for 2.5 hours sessions focusing on inside information about the work of various LMPD specialty units. The five most popular topics were Computer Predators; Forensics; Evidence Technician Unit; Violent Crimes and the Mounted Patrol. Beyond absorbing all the information from the intensive 30 hour course, graduates were determined to find ways to stay involved, improve their communities and maintain the strong bond they had formed with each other.

One of the graduates, Deborah Watson, explains it this way: All the women who attended the sessions were passionate about safe neighborhoods and bettering their communities. The WPCA provided a way for them to connect, become more informed, and understand how to get involved. But it was the second week of WPCA when they realized how powerful they could be as a group. That is when they found out one of the women in the class needed assistance. The class got organized. Within a week donations were flowing. Within two weeks their new friend had clothing, household supplies, and enough furniture to make a new beginning with her children. Deborah now volunteers on a regular basis through VIPs (Volunteers In Police Service). She loves every minute of it.

Register Now for the 2010 Women's Citizen Police Academy!

Women's Citizen Police Academy
* Free 12 Week Course

When:

February 3 - April 21
Every Wednesday evening
7:00-9:30pm

Where:

Locations will vary so attendees will be familiar with the different LMPD facilities throughout Metro.

- Tour LMPD Headquarters
- Learn about specialized units:
- Domestic Violence
- Crimes Against Children
- Crimes Against Seniors
- Public Integrity

- K-9, Mounted Police and SWATT
- Participate in a self-defense class
- Increase your knowledge of:
- Internet Predators
- Firearms Automated Training Systems
- Tasers
- LMPD Professional Standards
- Block Watch Organization
- Scamming and Identity Theft

Participants will also engage in additional activities:

- ◆ Ride along on patrol
- ◆ Tour of Coroner's Office
- ◆ Jail Tour
- ◆ Attend a Mayor's Community Conversation



Congratulations to the graduates of the 1st Women's Citizen Police Academy! Members of this class held their first annual retreat in December at Hopscotch House. In addition to relaxing, working out, and being creative, these women were planning their volunteer activities for 2010. Their central goal is to mentor young girls who need role models.



OFW in 2010

OFW Plans for 2010

January – National Stalking Awareness Month

January 28th after work at the Nia Center (Save the date) Advocacy “Speak Up” Networking & Information

February - Women’s Police Academy (12 wk)

Black History Month

Wear Red – Heart Health

March – Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)

Women’s History Month International Women’s Day

April – 20th Equal Pay Day

Child Abuse Awareness Month

May: 2nd Women’s Health Fair Women’s Health Week

June—July Women Build, Habitat for Humanity

August National Night Out

August Women’s Equality Day

September: Take Back The Night

October – DV Awareness Month

October – Project Homeless Connect

OFW is greeting 2010 with plans for a busy year!

JANUARY:

Advocacy “Speak Up” networking and information event on January 28th to be held at the NIA Center. Speakers will present information about a variety of ways to advocate and how to advocate. The Kentucky Legislature will be in session, therefore one topic will be advocating to legislators and public officials.

If you are an advocate, an advocacy organization, or someone wanting to get involved, watch for the registration announcement and more details in the Louisville Women’s Listserv.

FEBRUARY

Don’t forget the **Women’s Citizen Police Academy!** More details are on [page 3](#). [Register online now](#)

MARCH

- ♦ Women’s History Month will be observed throughout Louisville Metro in 2010! Why have a month about women’s history? According to the [National Women’s History Project](#), in the 1980s “less than 3% of the content of teacher training textbooks mentioned the contributions of women and when included, women were usually written in as mere footnotes. Women of color and women in fields such as math, science, and art were completely omitted.” The theme for the 30th Anniversary of the , “Writing Women Back Into History.” That includes honoring women like [Bessie Coleman](#).



January Begins Series of 2010 Special Observances

Beginning with [National Stalking Awareness Month](#), there are several annual observances that focus on personal safety. The purpose of “awareness months” are to draw attention to an issue, educate about the problem and the solutions.

Stalking tends to be minimized in importance by much of the public. However, victims are greatly impacted by a pattern of stalking. One third of victims report having to move or quit their jobs because they were stalked. A majority of victims changed their activities and/or lifestyle to avoid social activities and public places.

Kentucky Statutes define stalking (used in KRS 508.130 to 508.150) to mean:

(1)(a) To ‘stalk’ means to engage in an intentional course of conduct:

1. Directed at a specific person or persons;
2. Which seriously alarms, annoys, intimidates, or harasses the person or persons; and
3. Which serves no legitimate purpose. ...

The course of conduct shall be that which would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial mental distress.

The language taken from the definition of stalking clearly indicates the purpose of stalking is to torment the targeted person. Stalking can include threats and physical contact. Victims commonly report:

- ♦ Feeling anxiety
- ♦ Having sleep disturbances
- ♦ Feelings of hopelessness and depression
- ♦ Consideration of suicide to escape

The U.S. Department of Justice statistics summarize the affects of stalking on their 2009 report:

Anger/annoyance (72%), fear (42%), anxiety (26.8%), helplessness (10%), depression (10%).

Stalking is not acceptable; it is not funny. Let’s do our part to change the culture and put an end to stalking.



STALKING: KNOW IT. NAME IT. STOP IT.